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UD Arts Series to Host New Orleans Jazz Ensemble

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Feb. 12, 1998
Contact: Andrea Chenoweth or Erika Mattingly

**UD ARTS SERIES TO HOST
NEW ORLEANS JAZZ ENSEMBLE**

DAYTON, Ohio — The University of Dayton's Kennedy Union Ballroom will soon be filled with the sounds of New Orleans jazz.

Jamie Wight's New Orleans Joymakers will perform at 8 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 24, in the Kennedy Union Ballroom. As an ensemble influenced by jazz greats such as Louis Armstrong, Jelly Roll Morton, Wild Bill Davison, Sidney Bechet and Fats Waller, the Joymakers are dedicated to preserving and interpreting Old New Orleans jazz. Featured songs will include "Love Song of the Nile," "Petite Fleur," "Georgia Grind," "Some of These Days" and "Girl of My Dreams."

The Joymakers' performance is part of the UD Art Series. Ticket prices are \$8 for the general public and \$5 for alumni. Tickets are available by calling the UD Bookstore at (937) 229-3233 or the Boll Theatre Box Office at (937) 229-2545.

Jamie Wight, who plays the cornet, formed the Joymakers in 1977 after graduating from the University of Toledo. He has traveled across the globe appearing throughout the United States, Canada, South America, Europe and China. Now a permanent resident of New Orleans, Wight plays piano and cornet in several ensembles including Jamie Wight's Portage Jazz Band of New Orleans and Jamie Wight and His Fritzels Jazz Band.

Jacques Gauthe, clarinetist, was born in France where he led his "Old Time Jazz Band from Toulouse" until he moved to New Orleans in 1968. Gauthe also plays soprano saxophone and is featured on several recordings.

Mark Stewart, trombonist, also graduated from the University of Toledo. He plays many different styles of music and has performed with jazz ensembles, show bands, big bands and classical ensembles at festivals, concerts, balls and cruise ships.

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Dave Reynolds, who plays the drums, joined the Joymakers in 1981. He received a degree in music education from Bowling Green State University. Reynolds first met Wight when he contributed to Wight's early musical development as his school band director.

Dennis Samokovich, who plays the string bass, has performed with the Toledo Symphony Jazz Trio and is founder of the Toledo Jazz Society and the Toledo Jazz Festival. He has been active in promoting jazz throughout northern Ohio, central New York and southeastern Michigan.

John Ulrich, pianist, intended to become a high school band director, but instead found his musical niche as a jazz pianist. He often works as a soloist and has taught piano at Denison University and Capitol University.

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For more information, contact **Rosie Melia** at (937) 229-2787. For media interviews, contact **Jamie Wight** at (504) 893-9774.